Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 QUITO 00209 111332Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----111341Z 004538/53

R 111239Z JAN 77 FM AMEMBASSY QUITO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2817 INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

SECRET QUITO 0209

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG EINV PFOR EC

SUBJECT: SAUDI LOAN TO GOE TO PAY OFF GULF

REF: JIDDA 0160

- 1. MINISTER OF FINANCE SEVILLA DID NOT SPECIFY WHICH SAUDI OFFICIALS HE HAD CONTACTED, AND EMBASSY IS RELUCTANT TO PURSUE THE MATTER WITH HIM GIVEN SENSITIVITY OF SUBJECT.
- 2. AMOUNT INVOLVED IS APPROXIMATELY \$82.1 MILLION FOR IMMEDIATE DOWN PAYMENT TO GULF AND A POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL PAYMENT OF \$35 MILLION WITHIN THE NEXT EIGHTEEN MONTHS DEPENDING ON FINAL AUDIT OF GULF PROPERTIES IN ECUADOR.
- 3. COMMENT: WE SHARE EMBASSY JIDDA'S SKEPTICISM. HOWEVER, IN LIGHT OF SEVILLA'S IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCE IN HELPING SOLVE THE DISPUTE BETWEEN GULF AND THE GOE, WE BELIEVE HE MEANS WHAT HE SAYS AND HE WILL PURSUE AN APPROACH TO THE SAUDIS. AND, ON THE OFF-CHANCE THAT THE SAUDIS' MIGHT ACCEPT SUCH A PROPOSAL, WE BELIEVE THERE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE SUPPORT LOCALLY FOR THIS TANGIBLE BENEFIT OF ECUADOR'S OPEC MEMBERSHIP. SECRET

SECRET

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DEVELOPMENTAL AID FROM OPEC MEMBERS WAS CITED AS A REASON FOR ECUADOR'S OPEC MEMBERSHIP IN THE FIRST PLACE, AND ECUADOR'S EXCLUSION FROM THE OPEC DEVELOPMENT FUND HAS BEEN A SOURCE OF DISAPPOINTMENT FOR THE GOE.

BLOOMFIELD

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, NATIONALIZATION, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, MEMBERSHIP, NEGOTIATIONS, LOANS

Control Number: n/a

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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Subject: SAUDI LOAN TO GOE TO PAY OFF GULF

TAGS: ENRG, EINV, PFOR, EC, SA, US, OPEC, GULF OIL CORP, (SEVILLA)

To: STATE Type: TE

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